EDS: It's coming – but not quite yet

Some additional programming is required for Ladies First, which will extend the provider enrollment process to Tuesday, February 1, 2005, in order to revamp the system.

The good news is that EDS has agreed to improve the Medicaid side as well. The delay is a blessing in disguise: both programs will be improved and, best of all, the EDS office has agreed to provide full training to all providers via Vermont Interactive Television. Several dates will be offered to ensure that providers or staff can attend. Ladies First outreach specialists will distribute our new billing and clinical manuals to providers prior to the training.

The January 1, 2005 EDS launch date has been postponed. The new launch date will be announced later. In the meantime, providers should continue to bill the Vermont Department of Health as usual.

Ladies First Screening Cards

In December, Ladies First members began receiving screening cards – one for breast and cervical screening and/or one for cardiovascular screening – to bring to their annual visit with their health provider. These will now be used in place of the Ladies First **Screening Report Forms.** When a member hands you her card, please complete it as you would the Screening Report Form, and mail or fax it to Ladies First within 10 days of the office visit. These cards should make it easier to identify Ladies First members. If your patient forgets her card, call our provider support line at 1-800-510-2282.

New Fee Schedule

Ladies First Health Outreach Specialists will distribute the 2005 Schedule of Fees right after the New Year. As always, we reimburse at the Medicare Part B rates.

Screening and the Bottom Line – Grant Year Goal Update, 7/1/04-6/30/05

Latest figures show overall screenings are low. When we don't receive these forms or if women are not being screened, we can't provide the CDC with the information they need to fund our program. It is essential that you completely fill out and return our new screening cards or screening report forms in a timely manner. If you have questions or need support please contact our provider support line at 1-800-510-2282.

CATEGORY — Type of screening	GOAL – Members to be screened this year by 6/1/05	UPDATE – How we are doing as of 12/15/04
Mammogram	1,430	620
Pap Tests	1,930	530
CVD Screen	1,200	200
CVD Lifestyle Interventi	on 900	80

Practices Not Screening for CVD:

Call Marlys Beck at 1-802-651-1615 to hear about our statewide community cardiovascular screening clinics.

